

December '90

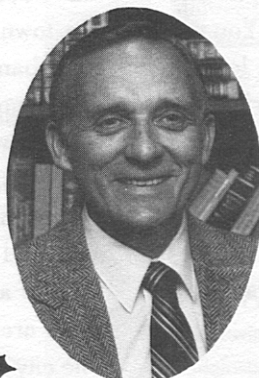
Southeast News

PUBLISHED BY THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

CONFERENCE STAFF



Mitchell Johnson



Roger Knight



Adrienne Laraway



Sandye Mullins



Janice Dandridge

*There is nothing I can give you which you have not;
but there is much that, while I cannot give, you can take.
No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in today.
Take heaven.
No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in this present instant.
Take peace.
The gloom of the world is but a shadow behind it, yet within reach is joy.
Take Joy.
And so, at this Christmastime, I greet you with the prayer that for you,
now and forever, the day breaks and the shadows flee away.*

FRA GIOVANNI, 1513

Associate Conference Minister Elected!

The Rev. Mitchell C. Johnson of Atlanta has been selected as Associate Conference Minister.

He is presently Moderator of the GA-SC Association and Interim Pastor of Button Gwinnett United Church of Christ. He will be responsible for Church Development and Growth programs, Association staffing and other program areas.

A retired Army chaplain with 30 years military service, Mitch has served churches in Massachusetts, Western New York, and Atlanta.

He is a graduate of Huston-Tillotson College of Austin, Texas, and of Andover Newton Theological School of Newton Centre, Mass. He pursued additional course work at Chicago Theological Seminary and San Francisco Theological Seminary.

He and his wife Helen, a public school teacher, have six children and three grandchildren.

VISIONS '91 CAMPAIGN

God has called us like the children of Israel to journey into God's future. Following in the way of Jesus Christ today in the Southeast means commitment together for the mission. How richly God blesses us! After the Board of Directors meetings Ren Manning announced that over one-half of the initial goal was committed! Two Visionary-category leaders set the pace! Others have committed to Pray Daily for the campaign. After the Cluster meetings, then in **January-February each local church will conduct an every-member commitment** (churches are already planning 100% member participation) Commitments are to be paid by January 10, 1993, sent to "Southeast Conference - Visions '91."

Conference campaign leaders and Board of Directors will enthusiastically assist churches in questions or guide you in your campaign plans. These words express the conviction of the Campaign leaders:

*Our Vision Is a Challenge — We Meet It.
Our Vision Is a Gift — We Accept It.
Our Vision Is an Adventure — We Dare It.*

On your behalf -
Campaign Committee

CONFERENCE CORNER

Conference Minister Message

Advent — Christmas. God's coming into humanity in such a defenseless childlike way — yet so revolutionary and transforming that powers were threatened. And so the story repeats itself. Yet God's love "comes down" to announce salvation for all the world. At times it seems as if the forces of destruction are overwhelming; but then we sing, "For in thy streets . . . shineth the everlasting light." The message of hope again! We who serve on your behalf send our greetings and God's blessings to you all in your homes and churches.

Now a word about Conference life: ★ How good to welcome Mitchell Johnson as Associate — we are so fortunate. You will come to know him, a gracious soul and forthright leader! ★ The Campaign **VISIONS '91** is moving wonderfully — and the reception at Cluster meetings is overwhelming and heartening! ★ The Board of Directors has taken actions for our future — programs to strengthen our churches and leaders. ★ And the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries approved a new Afro-American church start in Chattanooga! blessings . . . ★ It is a season of Blessings!

God's peace be yours in this Season.

Faithfully

Roger D. Knight

Pastoral Calls

Stan Yarbrough to Roanoke Bethany
Andrew Frierson to Sweetwater
John Mickle III Interim at Chattanooga 1st
Dave Naglee Interim at LaGrange
Philip Florence to Roanoke Rock Spring
Philip Gore to Roanoke Rock Stand

Vacancies

Chattanooga — New Church
Charleston Circular — Associate
Savannah 1st
LaGrange United
Oak Grove, Pine Forest
Robbins Parish (Barton and Glenmary)
Pleasant Hill Community
Marietta, Pilgrimage
Lilburn, Button Gwinnett

Macon — Thank You

Just a rich and warm "Thank You" to all those of you who helped with the Macon Work Day on November 17. It was an enriching experience and well worth the effort.

(The following expresses well our diversity in the Southeast Conference).

One Body — Diverse Gifts

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of working, but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

For the Church does not consist of one congregation but of many. If a country congregation should say, "Because we are not a city congregation, we do not belong to the Church," that would not make it any less a part of the Church. And if a town congregation should say, "Because we are not a suburban congregation we do not belong to the Church," that would not make it any less a part of the Church.

If the whole Church were in the city, what would become of the country people? If the whole Church were in the towns, what would become of the suburban people? But as it is, God arranged different areas, each of them, as God chose. If all were in a single area, where would the Church be? As it is, there are many worshipping communities, yet one Church. The city congregation cannot say to the country congregation, "I have no need of you," nor again can the rural congregation say to the urban congregation, "I have no need of you."

On the contrary, the worshipping communities of the Church which seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those congregations of the Church which we think less honorable we invest with greater honor, and our inelegant worshipping communities are treated with greater modesty, which our more elegant congregations do not require. But God has harmonized the whole church by giving importance of function to the worshipping communities which lack apparent importance, that the Church works together as a whole with all congregations in sympathetic relationship with one another. If one congregation suffers, all suffer together; if one congregation is honored all rejoice together.

Now you are the Church of Jesus Christ and individual congregations of it.

(A Paraphrase of I Corinthians 12:4-7; 12, 14-27, adapted from the Statement of Mission of Cherokee Presbytery)

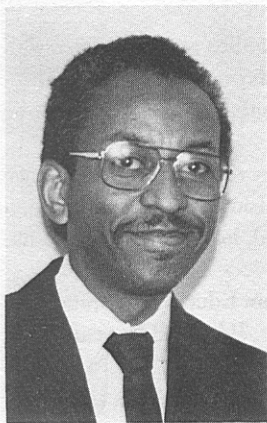
HUNTSVILLE DEDICATION

On October 14, new facilities were dedicated at Huntsville. Beginning in 1959 this congregation has grown steadily. Heavy commitment by all the members completed a successful Fund Drive resulting in the beautiful sanctuary. James Norris is pastor.

1990 CONTRIBUTIONS

The Conference books will close on Monday, January 14. Please have all monies into the office by that date. Please complete OCWM.

Local Church Leaders' Training Meeting!



The Rev. Ervin Milton, Southern Region staff for the office of Church Life and Leadership, will be key leader. These meetings are for officers and other elected leaders. "The purpose is to train leaders in their leadership roles by a grounding in UCC Identity (and polity), and specific role-training for officers and other leaders." Resources and other information will be distributed by Conference Staff.

Rev. Ervin Milton

All Come —

Saturday, February 9 — (10-2) — Please Call

Sunday, February 10 — (3-7) — Jonesboro Trinity

Monday, February 11 — (Even.) — Thomasville

Friday, February 22 — (Even.) — South Alabama

Saturday, February 23 — (10-2) — Lanett

Sunday, February 24 — (3-6:30) — Roanoke

Saturday, March 2 — (10-2) — Belvidere

Sunday, March 3 — (3-7) — Crossville

Monday, March 4 — (6-9) — Birmingham 1st

Plan to have your newly elected leaders in attendance.

Southeast Conference OCWM Report

October 31, 1990

Below respectively are the Associations: Ala-TN, South Alabama, G-S. Carolina, and S. Alabama. (12/5/90)

Ala-Tenn Association

NAME	1990 OCWM 4th Qtr.	YTD	1989 OCWM YTD
Cullman, St. John's	675.00	6,075.00	8,100.00
Birmingham, Pilgrim	390.00	3,510.00	5,070.00
Belvidere, 1st United Ch.	866.85	4,886.30	6,355.93
B'ham. 1st Congr. Church	900.00	4,200.00	3,100.00
Nashville, Brookmeade	.00	300.00	1,200.00
Crossville, United Chris. Ch.	75.00	2,525.00	1,820.00
Nashville, 1st United Church	416.67	3,750.03	5,000.00
Fairfield Glade Comm. Ch.	.00	1,125.00	1,200.00
United Church of Huntsville	.00	5,320.00	7,800.00
Chattanooga, Pilgrim	1597.25	16,972.50	18,481.00
Deer Lodge Congregational	.00	900.00	1,200.00
Sweetwater First	.00	.00	250.00
Knoxville, Ch. of the Savior	.00	870.00	2,802.00
Glenmary Cong. Chris. Ch.	.00	.00	400.00
Pleasant Hill Com. Church	.00	12,750.00	16,500.00
Garden City Cong. Chris. Ch.	115.50	346.50	462.00
Montgomery, First	.00	1,500.00	3,778.00
Nashville, Howard	92.00	92.00	500.00
Chattanooga, First CC	.00	100.00	100.00
Robbins-Barton Chapel	.00	300.00	300.00
Waverly, United Comm. Ch.	40.00	170.00	.00
Marion, First Cong.	.00	100.00	.00
TOTAL	\$22,040.18	\$65,792.33	\$84,418.93

Georgia - S. Carolina Association

NAME	1990 OCWM 4th Qtr.	YTD	1989 OCWM YTD
Atlanta, Central	2500.00	25,000.00	24,000.00
Atlanta, First	.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
Atlanta, Rush	.00	.00	900.00
Barnesville, Fredonia	.00	.00	250.00
Charleston, Circular	.00	1,999.98	2,333.34
Charleston, Plymouth	.00	1,150.00	1,138.50
Demorest, Federated	.00	333.75	436.00
Dewey Rose, Liberty	.00	250.00	1,459.00
Jonesboro, Trinity	500.00	4,500.00	6,000.00
Lilburn, Button Gwinnett	.00	.00	600.00
Marietta, Pilgrimage	166.66	749.99	2,463.50
Midway Congregational Ch.	300.00	750.00	600.00
Savannah-First	.00	.00	1,116.00
Thomasville, Beth. Cong. Ch.	.00	300.00	.00
TOTAL	\$10,094.57	\$40,033.72	\$51,296.34

S. Alabama - NW Florida Association

NAME	1990 OCWM 4th Qtr.	YTD	1989 OCWM YTD
Baker, Pyron	25.00	225.00	300.00
Andalusia, First CC	.00	165.00	450.00
Andalusia, Antioch	.00	1,400.00	1,300.00
Headland, Blackwood CC	225.00	390.00	470.00
Clio, New Hope	100.00	100.00	523.81
TOTAL	660.00	2,280.00	3,043.81

East - Alabama Association

NAME	1990 OCWM 4th Qtr.	YTD	1989 OCWM YTD
Alex City - First	80.00	400.00	500.00
Columbus, United	.00	250.00	550.00
Dadeville, Elder	255.00	483.00	163.00
Five Points - State Line	.00	150.00	125.00
Lafayette - Pleasant Grove	83.00	782.00	889.00
LaGrange, Hillside	.00	63.00	89.00
LaGrange, United	309.00	1,953.00	2,399.00
Lanett	.00	1,500.00	5,712.00
Langdale	.00	2,007.00	7,650.00
Phenix City - Russell Woods	.00	800.00	600.00
Pine Forest	140.00	1,680.00	1,149.00
Pine Mountain - Oak Grove	500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
Roanoke - Antioch	.00	600.00	600.00
Roanoke - Bethany	.00	.00	350.00
Roanoke - First	.00	1,085.00	750.00
Roanoke - North Main	.00	450.00	570.00
Roanoke - New Hope	.00	800.00	800.00
Roanoke - Rock Stand	.00	736.00	700.00
Wadley - Corinth Christian	.00	250.00	500.00
Wedowee - Noon Day	.00	.00	450.00
West Point - Bethel	.00	.00	250.00
Woodbury - Jones Chapel	195.00	1,699.00	2,001.00
Roanoke - Forest Home	.00	100.00	.00
TOTAL	5,680.00	17,288.00	28,797.00

'Bible An African Book,' UCC Minister Says

African places and people in the Bible range from the Garden of Eden to the church leaders who ordained the apostle Paul, and African-American should take pride in that heritage.

That was the message of a daily Bible study led by the Rev. G. Wesley Raney, a UCC minister from Daytona Beach, Florida, at a biennial convention of United Black Christians, July 10-14 in Greensboro, North Carolina. The convention drew about 200 delegates, representing some 70,000 African-Americans who are members of our 1.6 million-member United Church of Christ.

12th Annual Church Music Workshop

"'Hallelujah From the Heart of God': Prophecy in Music" February 22-23, 1991 at Candler School of Theology. For information (404) 727-5607.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

meeting, January 13-14, '91 — to envision and plan Southeast Conference church futures. Henry Simmons, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, is leader. If you are interested call by January 3. Conference office or Jim Smalley.

UCC PLANNING

"Toward the 21st Century" — Papers are being sent from National UCC to churches who are being encouraged to give any input they might have when it's received.

Room in the Inn News

Brookmeade began the Room in the Inn program, November 18 with 14 homeless guests staying each Sunday evening. Jackie Shrago and Ray Clothier are Brookmeade's Co-ordinators for the program this year.

**SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
P. O. BOX 29883
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30359**

'FAMILIES 2000' Event — April 10-14, 1991, at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, Illinois.

It will set forth a prophetic vision of families and ministries with families for the 21st century; and set new directions for family education, advocacy, and pastoral support in both the church and public policy arenas.

This event is denominational and agency representatives who are leaders, program staff, clinicians and decision-makers in education and family ministries at the congregational, local, regional, and national levels.

If you are interested contact the Christian Education Commission or write: Families 2000, Box 603, Wayne, PA 19087 or call (215) 688-0629.

CELEBRATE

A National Ecumenical Gathering of Student Christian Conferences. December 28, 1990 through January 1, 1991. To be held at The Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky. Special Guest Leader Dr. Joseph Diescho, Fulbright Scholar from Namibia School of International and Public Affairs Columbia University. For additional information call Verlyn L. Barker, UCBHM, 475 Riverside Drive, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10115.

GOOD SAMARITANS

The congregation of Church of the Savior (Knoxville) can be praised as being "Good Samaritans." They were able to bless a mother and her two children in their time of need by providing funds, clothing, babysitting services, professional counseling and other needs. May God continue to Bless you, Knoxville, as you go on to Bless others.

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